
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Dave Gordon

Phone: (907) 747-6688
Fax: (907) 747-6693

Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
Sitka, Alaska 99835
Date: March 21, 2012
Time: 2:00 p.m.

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #3

The department conducted an aerial survey this morning covering areas south to Windy Pass and north to Salisbury Sound. Spotting conditions were excellent with light winds. No herring were seen during the survey. North of Sitka sea lions and whales continue to be concentrated in the area between Old Sitka Rocks and Dog Point with few herring predators seen outside of this area. In Salisbury Sound there were scattered small groups of sea lions from Kane Islands to St John Baptist Bay. South of Sitka there were 30 sea lions and one whale in Silver Bay. No other notable concentration of herring predators was observed south of Sitka. The next aerial survey is scheduled for Friday, March 23.

A test set was made today immediately north of Old Sitka Rocks with the following results:

| Date | Time | Location | Vessel | Set Size (Tons) | Percent Mature Roe | Percent Immature Roe | Ave Wt. (gms) | Percent Female |
|--------|-------|------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 21-Mar | 11:00 | N. Old Sitka Rks | Confidence | 200 | 2.5% | 10.8% | 161 | 59% |

The department will be seeking to have a test sample taken on Friday or Saturday.

A pre-fishery organizational meeting will occur March 25, at 2:00 p.m. at the Westmark Banquet Room.

Permit holders wanting to make practice sets may do so in the deeper waters of Eastern Channel south of Jamestown Bay.

Updates will be posted on the ADF&G web site listed below, and on a recorded message phone at (907) 747-1009.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

| Office | Ketchikan | Petersburg | Wrangell | Sitka | Juneau | Haines | Hoonah | Yakutat |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| ADFG | 225-5195 | 772-3801 | 874-3822 | 747-6688 | 465-4250 | 766-2830 | | 784-3255 |
| AWT | 225-5111 | 772-3983 | 874-3215 | 747-3254 | 465-4000 | 766-2533 | 945-3620 | 784-3220 |
| Herring Hotline | 225-6870 | 772-3700 | | 747-1009 | 465-8905 | | | |